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FM THE SITUATION ROOM  
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
ZEM

**T O P S E C R E T** SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY  
[REDACTED] DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS WHA3148

Nov 6 1 09 PM '74

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TOHAK 16W

PASS TO BREMER/GOMPERT FOR THE SECRETARY  
NOVEMBER 6, 1974

State Dept. review completed

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

SYRIAN VIEWS: ILLUSTRATIVE OF REPORTS ON SYRIAN THINKING IN  
ADVANCE OF YOUR VISIT, [REDACTED]  
THE SYRIAN LEADERSHIP AS EXTREMELY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE  
CHANCES OF AN EARLY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BECAUSE OF ISRAELI  
UNWILLINGNESS TO WITHDRAW FURTHER FROM GOLAN AND U.S. UNWILLING-  
NESS OR INABILITY TO PRESSURE ISRAEL TO DO SO. THE SYRIANS ARE  
THUS SAID TO FEEL THEY WILL HAVE TO STIMULATE THIS PRESSURE BY  
REFUSING TO RENEW UNDOF UNLESS THE GENEVA TALKS ARE RECONVENED  
AND THERE ARE TANGIBLE INDICATIONS THAT MIDEAST PEACE INITIATIVES  
ARE PROGRESSING. [REDACTED] THE SYRIANS UNDERSTAND  
THAT FAILURE TO RENEW UNDOF WILL PROBABLY MEAN RENEWED FIGHTING  
IN THE GOLAN AREA. HOWEVER, ASAD WANTS TO RESOLVE THE GOLAN  
PROBLEM AND BELIEVES THAT UNLESS THE SYRIANS PUSH THE ISRAELIS  
OUT OF THE AREA THEY WILL REMAIN THERE INDEFINITELY.

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REPORTS THAT THE SYRIANS ESTIMATE RENEWED FIGHTING IN GOLAN  
ONLY APPEAR OPTIMISTIC, GIVEN THE PROBABLE ISRAELI REACTION TO  
ANY SYRIAN PROVOCATION. REPORTING FROM TEL AVIV SAYS THAT IN  
THE PAST FEW DAYS THE ISRAELI PRESS HAS BEEN DEBATING WHAT WOULD  
CONSTITUTE A CASUS BELLI. (HOUGHTON/NIENHUS)

REPORTS THE BRITISH WILL ABROGATE SIMONSTOWN PACT WITH SOUTH  
AFRICA: OUR EMBASSY IN CAPE TOWN REPORTS THAT, ACCORDING TO  
THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS, THE LABOR GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO  
END THE SIMONSTOWN AGREEMENT (PERMITTING UK NAVY THE USE OF  
PORT FACILITIES). THE DECISION WAS REPORTEDLY TAKEN LAST WEEK  
AND LEAKED TO THE PRESS TO MOLLIFY GROWING ANGER IN THE LEFT WING  
OF THE LABOR PARTY. THE ARTICLE CONTINUED THAT U.S. DEFENSE  
DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS "ADMITTED" THE U.S. WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE  
TO USE SIMONSTOWN.

OTHER RECENT SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS STORIES CLAIM THE U.S. HAS PRI-  
VATELY WARNED BRITAIN OF THE "SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF ABROGATING  
THE AGREEMENT. ONE STORY SAYS THE "STATE DEPARTMENT IS SAID TO BE  
DOING EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO STOP ANY SUCH BRITISH MOVE, WHICH  
IS REGARDED AS MADNESS." THE DEPARTMENT, IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY  
REQUESTS FOR GUIDANCE AUTHORIZED INTERESTED POSTS TO SAY THE  
U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS NOT ENCOURAGED THE UK TO MAINTAIN THE SIMONS-  
TOWN AGREEMENT, AND HAS NOT ENCOURAGED THE UK TO COLLABORATE WITH  
SOUTH AFRICAN NAVAL FORCES. (HORAN)

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